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Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti

I. Introduction

1. By its resolution 2012 (2011), the Security Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) until 15 October 2012, and requested me to report on its implementation semi-annually and not later than 45 days prior to its expiration. The present report covers major developments from the issuance of my report of 29 February 2012 (S/2012/128) until 31 August 2012, and outlines activities undertaken by the Mission in line with its mandate under Security Council resolutions 1542 (2004), 1608 (2005), 1702 (2006), 1743 (2007), 1780 (2007), 1840 (2008), 1892 (2009), 1908 (2010), 1927 (2010), 1944 (2010) and 2012 (2011).

II. Political and security update

Political situation

2. During the reporting period, a number of long-awaited political milestones were reached, indicating that the process of stabilization continues to progress in Haiti. The achievements included the ratification by the Senate of a new Prime Minister and the publication of the corrected version of the constitutional amendments that had been pending since June 2011. The establishment of the Superior Council of the Judiciary (provided for in a 2007 law to strengthen the independence of the judiciary, but only now constituted) represents a further stride by the Government in strengthening rule of law institutions. The process to establish the country's first Permanent Electoral Council has, however, been mired in controversy, with some political parties represented in Parliament and civil society leaders questioning the integrity of the Council and its ability to organize credible elections.

3. On 17 April, a group of members of the former armed forces and young recruits, some of whom were carrying small arms, assembled in front of Parliament to request an audience with legislators regarding the purported plan of the Haitian National Police to forcefully dislodge them from sites that they had illegally occupied throughout the country. On 18 April, the President of Haiti, Michel Joseph Martelly, condemned the incident, calling for public order. In response to their demand for the reinstatement of the army and the disbursement of severance

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payments, he emphasized that, while the establishment of a second security force continued to be one of his priorities, it could be done only with full respect for the law. The following day, at a meeting of the Superior Council of the Haitian National Police chaired by the caretaker Prime Minister, Garry Conille, it was agreed that the situation would be resolved through negotiation. The possible use of more robust measures was also explored. As an auxiliary measure, on 6 May, MINUSTAH launched Operation Sunrise, intended to curtail the movement of people carrying illegal weapons. On 18 May, two days after the installation of the new Government, the police, supported by MINUSTAH, proceeded to vacate the 10 main occupied sites throughout the country. The operation was conducted without incidents or casualties. In June, the authorities brought to an end the group's illegal activities.

4. In May, Parliament ratified the President's choice of Laurent Lamothe as Prime Minister. On 8 May, the final day in office of 10 outgoing senators, the Senate endorsed Mr. Lamothe's general policy statement, which was based on the President's "5 E" programme (employment, rule of law, environment, energy and education). On 14 May, the Chamber of Deputies voted in favour of Mr. Lamothe by a substantial majority. Two days later, Mr. Lamothe and his Cabinet of 22 ministers (including seven women), were sworn in. On 6 August, the Prime Minister announced a partial reshuffling of the Cabinet, including the replacement of Thierry Mayard-Paul as Minister of the Interior. Mr. Mayard-Paul was subsequently appointed as an adviser by the President.

5. Parliament adjourned its first legislative session of 2012 on 14 May. The legislation adopted and sent for promulgation to the executive included the budget for the period 2011-2012, a bill governing the Office of the Ombudsman and a bill regulating banks and other financial institutions. On 29 June, during the second session of Parliament, the Government submitted for approval the draft budget for the period 2012-2013, which was adopted by the Chamber of Deputies on 10 August. A number of parliamentarians called for a precise accounting of funds spent on social programmes by the Government.

6. On 19 June, in a ceremony attended by the presidents of both chambers of Parliament and of the Supreme Court, the President of Haiti announced the publication of a corrected version of the constitutional amendments, as adopted by Parliament on 9 May 2011. Although the process of publication was marred by procedural irregularities, many welcomed the amendments, which include the establishment of a permanent electoral council, a constitutional council (responsible for exercising judicial review of constitutional matters) and a quota of 30 per cent women's representation in the Government, in addition to allowing for the possibility of holding multiple citizenship. Opponents of the publication contested the President's authority to publish the corrected amendments.

7. This development was followed on 3 July by the formal establishment by the President of the Superior Council of the Judiciary, one of the three entities, along with Parliament and the executive, responsible for selecting members of the Permanent Electoral Council under the amended Constitution. Early in July, the President and the Prime Minister officially stated their intention to hold partial legislative, municipal and local elections by the end of 2012. In the ensuing weeks, the three branches of the Government initiated negotiations to each designate three of the nine members of the Permanent Electoral Council. Following a vote by the Superior Council of the Judiciary on the designation of three people to serve on the

Permanent Electoral Council, two members of the Superior Council resigned from their posts, questioning the validity of the vote and alleging undue influence on the vote by the executive.

8. Following the establishment on 15 August, by presidential decree, of a six-member Permanent Electoral Council, including three members nominated by the executive and the Superior Council of the Judiciary, the President's spokesperson called upon Parliament to follow suit in nominating its three representatives. The Senate, following the end of the term of office of 10 senators on 8 May, has to date failed to reach a quorum in order to designate its three representatives, however. A number of legislators, citing their lack of trust in the selection process, have advocated the creation of a provisional electoral council.

9. On 16 August, a political party, Parti Haitien Tèt Kale, was officially registered at the Ministry of Justice and Public Security. It is led by the Chief of Staff of the President, Anne-Valérie Timothée Milfort.

Security assessment

10. The overall security situation throughout the reporting period remained relatively stable, with sporadic instances of civil unrest linked primarily to socioeconomic grievances and the instability caused by elements of the former armed forces and new recruits.

11. Crime statistics collected by the national police and MINUSTAH showed a significant increase in homicides during the reporting period. There was a monthly average of 99 homicides from March to July 2012, up from 75 per month during the same period in 2011. July 2012 was the most violent month since the earthquake of January 2010, with 134 homicides. From March to July 2012, there was a downward trend in the number of kidnappings, with a monthly average of 10 kidnappings, compared to an average of 14 during the same period in 2011. Violence continues to be concentrated in major urban centres. The metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince and the surrounding densely populated communes remain the zones most highly affected by criminal activity. During the reporting period, 65 per cent of all homicides in Haiti occurred in Port-au-Prince, some 85 to 90 per cent of which took place in the sensitive areas of the communes of Port-au-Prince (the areas of Bel Air, Fort National and Martissant), Cité Soleil, Carrefour and Croix des Bouquets. In those areas, armed gangs remain the main source of insecurity, committing murders, kidnappings and robberies. Gangs are also involved in narcotics and small arms trafficking, racketeering and the fight for territorial influence.

12. Although the performance of the national police has continued to improve, the institution is not yet in a position to assume full responsibility for the provision of internal security throughout the country. In this context, MINUSTAH military and police personnel continued to play a vital role in maintaining overall security and stability. The Mission, in concert with the national police, focused its efforts on the protection of vulnerable groups, in particular women and children, and maintained its military and police presence in violence-prone areas and camps for internally displaced persons.

III. Humanitarian and recovery update

13. Haiti continued to face significant humanitarian challenges during the reporting period, with many earthquake-affected camp residents remaining dependent on assistance for their basic survival. In June 2012, more than 390,000 internally displaced persons were living at 575 sites. This figure represents a reduction of 73 per cent compared to the data for July 2010, when 1,555 camps were home to 1.5 million displaced persons. At the current rate, more than 230,000 internally displaced persons are projected to still be living in camps by the end of 2012. While important progress has been made, significant humanitarian needs remain. Living conditions in the camps have deteriorated as humanitarian actors progressively withdraw for lack of funding, among other reasons. Haitians living in camps in which sanitation standards are inadequate are extremely vulnerable to natural hazards and to acute diarrhoeal infections and cholera. Since July 2010, more than 65,000 people have been evicted from 155 camps. An additional 80,000 camp residents currently face the threat of eviction from 153 camps. During the reporting period, in excess of 1.1 million children in more than 3,200 schools nationwide remained dependent on food assistance provided by the World Food Programme, in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Bank.

14. Recovery and reconstruction efforts progressed, albeit slowly. Of the 10 million cubic metres of debris produced by the earthquake of January 2010, 70 per cent had been removed by June 2012. The United Nations country team alone managed the removal of more than 820,000 cubic metres and will reach 1 million cubic metres by the end of 2012. According to figures from March 2012, national Governments and multilateral institutions have disbursed 46.7 per cent ($2.57 billion) of the $5.50 billion in recovery programme funds that they pledged at the International Donors' Conference entitled "Towards a New Future for Haiti", held in New York on 31 March 2010. The creation of the Housing and Public Buildings Construction Unit attached to the Office of the Prime Minister contributed to improved coordination and implementation of return and relocation programmes. To date, more than 500,000 persons have benefited from the construction of 110,000 transitional shelters, the granting of 15,000 rental housing subsidies and the provision of other assistance. Since September 2011, the Government-led "16/6" relocation programme, which, together with United Nations agencies, originally aimed to support the residents of six camps and rehabilitate the 16 neighbourhoods from which most of them were displaced, has cleared at least 22 camp sites, both large and small, and relocated 5,000 families. Most of the camps, more than 70 per cent of which are located on private land, are not covered by this programme, and there remains no plan to provide durable housing solutions for their residents. The United Nations country team and partners have been supporting the development by the Government of a policy on housing and urban development, in addition to advocating the provision of redress for those living in camps and informal settlements. Such a policy would be a major step forward in the progressive realization of the right to adequate housing, in particular for poorer communities, and will hopefully include protective measures against forced evictions for inhabitants of the camps on both public and private land.

IV. Activities of the Mission

Support for the political process

15. My Special Representative has engaged intensively with political decision makers in Haiti to advocate progress on critical political processes such as the publication of the corrected constitutional amendments, the installation of the Superior Council of the Judiciary, the establishment of a dedicated task force for the preparation of the forthcoming elections and the elaboration of a legislative agenda for the continuing parliamentary session. My Special Representative has made proposals to the President, the Prime Minister and the presidents of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies on how MINUSTAH can, in line with its mandate, support their policy goals to strengthen institutions, improve the rule of law and promote sustainable development in Haiti. MINUSTAH has closely cooperated with the country's international partners, including the diplomatic corps in Port-au-Prince, to create momentum around the Government's key priorities.

Support for the forthcoming elections

16. Owing to delays in the designation of the members of the Permanent Electoral Council, the partial legislative, municipal and local elections — postponed since November 2011 — could not be held before 8 May 2012, when one third of the senators reached the end of their term of office. The terms of mayors, town delegates, communal section councils and assemblies expired in 2011. In the absence of the designated members of the Permanent Electoral Council, institutional support from MINUSTAH, assisted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), was inevitably limited, focusing mainly on strengthening the capacity of key technical staff, delimiting electoral constituencies and reviewing electoral logistics plans and an electoral bill. The new Director General of the Permanent Electoral Council took office on 7 August. The forthcoming elections will be the most complex to be held in Haiti since 2006, with an expected 35,000 candidates. In the past, local elections have been the most acrimoniously contested, often accompanied by violence. On 3 August, my Special Representative wrote to the President to outline the steps required to hold elections at the end of 2012.

Military

17. The military component of MINUSTAH continued to fulfil its primary mission of maintaining a secure and stable environment, in addition to enabling the delivery of humanitarian assistance, ensuring disaster response preparedness, planning logistics for the upcoming elections and supporting recovery efforts. In addition to the above-mentioned Operation Sunrise, the military component took part in several security operations in conjunction with the national police, including operations Meritas, Boucler Port-au-Prince I and Boucler Port-au-Prince II, targeting gang activities in the Port-au-Prince area. The military component also conducted two operations on the island of Gonâve, reinforcing the presence of the national police assigned there.

18. In addition to providing extensive engineering support to the Mission, the MINUSTAH military engineering companies supported a wide range of Government recovery priorities linked to disaster risk mitigation and the improvement of living and security conditions, such as improvements to national police facilities,

construction of new police stations, debris removal, well-drilling, road repair, land preparation for the construction of schools and hospitals, and installation of prefabricated units for the judiciary and other State institutions. The engineering units continued to prepare for the hurricane season by draining rivers and canals, including in camps for internally displaced persons.

Police

19. The development of the national police has been challenged by political deadlocks, including delays in key appointments such as the Prime Minister and the Inspector General in Chief of the national police, both of whom are also members of the Superior Council of the Haitian National Police. The delays paralysed progress in the first half of the reporting period, including the overall endorsement of the national police development plan. In a positive development, on 15 August, the Government nominated Godson Orelus, the former Director of the judicial police, as Director General ad interim of the national police. Pending ratification by the Senate, he will replace Mario Andrésol, whose term expired on 18 August.

20. The five-year development plan (2012-2016), drafted jointly by the national police and the Mission's police component, was officially submitted by the Director General to the Superior Council on 1 March. To ensure execution of the plan pending its final endorsement, the Government held a high-level summit on 29 June, attended by the President, members of the Superior Council, members of the Senate, civil society representatives, key bilateral partners and MINUSTAH. At the summit, MINUSTAH and the national police presented a joint proposal for a one-year interim strategic plan linking specific short-term objectives and commitments by major donors with the goals of the long-term development plan. The urgent priorities include budgetary support from the Government and donors with a particular focus on recruitment campaigns to augment the size of police promotions.

21. One of the plan's main objectives is to achieve a minimum of 15,000 serving police officers by 2016. This would require entry-level training at the Police School for up to 1,200 cadets in each promotion cycle, considerably more than has been the case in recent promotions. It would also require sustained efforts to reinforce the capacity of middle-level and senior officer ranks to ensure adequate on-the-job training and supervision of new recruits. Furthermore, the rapid growth of the ranks of the national police would necessitate further improvements in its logistic and administrative capacity to administer and deploy large numbers of new officers around the country. Lastly, the addition of 5,000 new officers by 2015 will lead to a considerable increase in budgetary requirements, which will need to be met by the Government and international donors.

22. During the reporting period, entry-level training of police cadets faced serious challenges. The twenty-third promotion began on 18 April with only 241 cadets, owing to a significant number of applicants failing the final medical screening. Concerned at the low intake, the national police extended the application deadline for the twenty-fourth promotion, allowing MINUSTAH to support a vigorous recruitment campaign conducted in police stations throughout Haiti. Consequently, 26,147 applicants, including 1,934 women, sat the written exams. On 23 July, the national police announced that 14,070 candidates, including 1,070 women, had passed the written exams and would be screened through physical and medical tests,

followed by interviews late in September. Furthermore, surplus successful candidates would be rostered for future promotions.

23. Progress in vetting police officers has been slow. To date, not a single officer has been dismissed as a result of the vetting exercise begun in 2006 by an integrated national police and MINUSTAH committee. Vetting centres have been established in 6 of the country's 10 departments, with the remaining 4 scheduled to be operational by January 2013. By July 2012, 1,034 new case files had been opened. On 14 May, background checks began for the cadets in the twenty-third promotion. Separately, 138 cases vetted before the earthquake were reviewed jointly with a high-level national police committee, which, in a final report submitted on 11 June, recommended the removal of 92 of the police officers reviewed. The Director General has submitted the names of 79 of those officers to the Minister of Justice and Public Security for his approval of their dismissal.

Protection of vulnerable groups

24. During the reporting period, and in close coordination with camp committees, MINUSTAH continued its community policing efforts in camps for the internally displaced, in particular in high-risk areas where women are vulnerable to sexual and gender-based violence. Of the remaining 575 sites, 5 high-risk and 2 medium-risk camps have been secured by a 24-hour security presence, 29 by a semi-permanent presence and approximately 70 non-permanent camps by daily patrols. The remaining sites are patrolled randomly. Beginning in April 2012, MINUSTAH police and military brought to an end their provision of 24-hour security in three camps: Acra Nord/Sud, Champs de Mars and Acra 238. The Mission handed over security responsibility for those camps to the national police, leaving only four locations secured by a 24-hour MINUSTAH security presence (Jean-Marie Vincent No. 1, Jean-Marie Vincent No. 2, Petionville Club and Corail). Further handover to the national police will continue, with only Jean-Marie Vincent, a high-risk camp, expected to require a permanent co-location with MINUSTAH presence in one year's time.

25. MINUSTAH led a joint working group, including UNICEF and the International Organization for Migration, in reviewing a bill on human trafficking that has been pending before Parliament since 2010. In recognition of the additional vulnerability faced by women in fragile communities, MINUSTAH continues to ensure that 30 per cent of the beneficiaries of each community violence reduction project are women (see below).

Community violence reduction

26. Under its programme to reduce community violence, MINUSTAH continued to conduct stabilization initiatives in fragile urban communities to tackle the persistent weakness of security institutions, socioeconomic challenges and political volatility. During the reporting period, it conducted large-scale labour-intensive projects, professional skills training, income-generating activities and psychosocial and awareness-raising initiatives, primarily targeting at-risk young people in urban areas. The Mission completed 63 projects from the budget for the period 2010-2011 and initiated another 57 projects, valued at $9 million, from the budget for the period 2011-2012, including 36 labour-intensive projects on watershed management, city infrastructure and canal rehabilitation that provide temporary employment for

51,000 at-risk young people, of whom 30 per cent are women, while also mitigating flood risks and improving urban sanitation for the wider community. In Port-au-Prince, Gonaïves and Cap-Haïtien, 1,300 young people (including women) are receiving income-generating support. The Mission continues to collaborate closely with its Haitian counterparts, in particular the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Civic Action, to build capacity with regard to measures to reduce violence. In addition, UNDP has provided technical and capacity-development support to strengthen the National Observatory on Violence and Crime, which is linked to the State University of Haiti.

Support to State institutions

27. MINUSTAH supported efforts by the elected municipal councils to finalize performance reports on their mandated period in office from 2006 to 2011, with 75 per cent of municipalities completing the exercise during the reporting period. This activity, aimed at institutionalizing a culture of accountability, was hampered by several factors, including political uncertainty caused by the replacement by presidential decree of more than 60 per cent of the country's 140 municipal councils whose term in office had expired in 2011 and the weakness of the internal management procedures of the Ministry of the Interior. The Mission and the Ministry participated jointly in planning and supervising the preparation of 140 municipal budgets for the fiscal year 2012-2013. In this challenging environment, MINUSTAH continued to support the Government's decentralization priorities at the central and departmental levels by reinforcing established local coordination mechanisms to identify locally driven solutions to security and conflict issues.

28. From 9 to 11 March, the Mission facilitated a parliamentary retreat for 52 parliamentarians representing all political affiliations with a view to encouraging debate on the Haitian anti-corruption legal framework between parliamentarians and institutions involved in efforts to combat corruption. The retreat culminated in the adoption of a declaration in which the legislature committed itself to approving pending anti-corruption legislation and to strengthening the autonomy of the Anti-Corruption Unit. To date, however, the difficulty in reaching a quorum in the Senate since 8 May has prevented the holding of a session to review and adopt the aforementioned bill.

Quick-impact projects

29. During the reporting period, MINUSTAH focused on funding and implementing quick-impact projects for earthquake-affected communities, while identifying projects in the following four priority areas defined by the Mission's leadership in September 2011: cholera mitigation; security lighting; road and infrastructure rehabilitation; and rule of law and education infrastructure (including schools and municipal and departmental public institutions). By mid-July, the Mission had fully allocated the quick-impact budget of $7.5 million for the period 2011-2012, covering 177 projects, and closed all 229 projects from the fiscal year 2010-2011. As at 15 July, the Mission had approved 36 projects representing 35.5 per cent of the $5 million budget for the fiscal year 2012-2013.

Justice

30. MINUSTAH and UNDP supported the Ministry of Justice and Public Security in devising a road map for rule of law reform. This included the organization in June of a national meeting, chaired by the Ministry of Justice and Public Security, on the problem of excessive pretrial detention. MINUSTAH and UNDP continued to support the Ministry, including through the strengthening of the Judicial Inspectorate and the Ministry's planning unit. In particular, UNDP supported a capacity development assessment of the Ministry, which resulted in an action plan for its institutional reform. MINUSTAH and UNDP also supported the Superior Council of the Judiciary, whose functions include the administration of the judicial branch, the certification of certain magistrates before appointment and judicial discipline.

31. MINUSTAH approached external and international donors for the funding of the national legal aid programme. The support of UNDP in three regional pilot jurisdictions in Jacmel, Port-de-Paix and Fort-Liberté resulted in improved justice service delivery and decreased the levels of pretrial detention. UNDP and MINUSTAH jointly trained local magistrates, police officers and Prison Administration agents in investigation techniques and judicial identification in several regions. During the reporting period, MINUSTAH executed 17 quick-impact projects to construct and rehabilitate courts and provide them with office equipment. Meanwhile, 26 prefabricated units were installed for tribunals and civil registry offices throughout the country and the rehabilitation and equipping of the Institute of Forensic Medicine building was completed. The Mission also provided technical assistance in drafting a new legal basis for the Institute of Forensic Medicine. MINUSTAH and UNDP continued to provide technical assistance to the School of Magistrates, through which 20 magistrates who graduated from the initial training programme conducted in France were deployed to various jurisdictions as judges or prosecutors. The magistrates also benefited from an on-the-job training programme supported by UNDP, while MINUSTAH provided technical assistance to working groups preparing new criminal and criminal procedure codes.

Corrections

32. Notwithstanding the efforts to reduce the rate of illegal and prolonged pretrial detention by reviewing pending cases, which led to the release of numerous individuals, the growing number of new arrests has meant that the rate has remained high. As part of its programme aimed at improving correctional practices, MINUSTAH trained 105 Haitian corrections officers in the country's 16 prisons. The mentoring and training provided to medical personnel notwithstanding, inmate death rates increased significantly, primarily as a result of the resurgence of cholera and tuberculosis. A total of 69 deaths from various causes were reported for the first half of 2012, compared to an annual total of 43 in 2011. MINUSTAH is working closely with health partners and the Prison Administration leadership to enhance health services, although the absence of qualified staff remains a significant challenge. MINUSTAH corrections officers have also been embedded in the Office of the Ombudsman and in the internal investigations branch of the national police, so as to raise awareness and increase capacity for intervention within the prison environment, in an effort to ensure that appropriate action is taken in cases of negligence and serious human rights violations. Efforts continued to build the capacity of the prison registration system, enabling the identification and release of

prisoners irregularly detained. Following the endorsement of standard operating procedures for correctional facilities by the Haitian authorities, MINUSTAH is working with the Prison Administration on their implementation. MINUSTAH completed the installation in eight prisons of prefabricated facilities to be used as administrative offices and inmate classrooms. MINUSTAH has also provided technical support to the Prison Administration in the final phase of the opening of the Croix des Bouquets prison.

Human rights

33. The political stalemate and absence of a functioning Government in the early part of the reporting period constituted major obstacles to progress in the promotion and protection of human rights. The Mission maintained its focus on the investigation and reporting of human rights violations. In June 2012, it published a report on the inadequate response by the criminal justice sector to rape complaints filed in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area and issued recommendations on how victims of rape and other sexual crimes could better gain access to justice, which are also informing the Mission's engagement with the authorities. The limited efforts by the police and judiciary to investigate the killings that were the subject of public MINUSTAH reports in 2011 have not achieved significant results. Political will is needed to advance efforts to combat impunity, in particular following the controversial statement by the Haitian magistrate leading the investigation of former President Jean-Claude Duvalier that the statute of limitations blocked prosecution of the well-documented human rights crimes under the Duvalier regime. MINUSTAH continues to conduct capacity-building and awareness-raising activities throughout the country. It has established good working relations with the Minister with special responsibility for promoting human rights and combating extreme poverty and has also provided assistance to the Office of the Ombudsman to prepare a law consistent with the Principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles). The law was adopted by Parliament in May and is awaiting promulgation by the President. MINUSTAH continues to advocate adequate financial support for the Office from the State, especially to ensure a country-wide presence.

Gender

34. The Mission provided support to the Ministry of Women's Affairs and Women's Rights in running safe spaces for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence established in three camps for internally displaced persons, in addition to coordinating the creation of similar spaces in seven national police stations. The Mission, in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration, organized 28 training sessions for national police officers on police response to sexual and gender-based violence, in addition to 27 training sessions for Haitian legal professionals on legal recourse for victims of sexual violence. MINUSTAH held a five-day training-of-trainers session for 30 community leaders (20 women and 10 men) as part of a "zero violence" platform to support the establishment of community networks to raise awareness of how to prevent sexual and gender-based violence. The Mission supported advocacy campaigns that led to the adoption of the above-mentioned constitutional amendment providing for a quota of at least 30 per cent women's participation in public decision-making. Support was also provided to women's networks for the organization of 360 training and awareness-raising

workshops that culminated in the adoption of a national platform of action for women and their communities that was officially submitted to the President by representatives of women's organizations.

Child protection

35. During the reporting period, MINUSTAH received reports of violations of children's rights, including 128 cases of rape, 6 cases of kidnapping, 5 cases of child trafficking, 7 cases of homicide and 3 cases in which children were shot and injured, frequently during shoot-outs between rival gangs. The reports are shared weekly with the national police Brigade for the Protection of Minors for follow-up. Concerning child trafficking, MINUSTAH briefed civilian agents of the Brigade and local communities against smuggling and trafficking of children at border posts with the Dominican Republic and established a hotline hosted by the Brigade to report child trafficking and other offences against children. After sustained advocacy by MINUSTAH and the juvenile justice sectoral group led by the Ministry of Justice and Public Security with the support of UNICEF, the juvenile court resumed hearings in June 2012 and has been processing most pending cases, 82 per cent of which involve minors in pretrial detention. Following advocacy by MINUSTAH in cooperation with UNICEF and other stakeholders, on 11 June, Parliament ratified the Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in respect of Intercountry Adoption.

HIV/AIDS

36. Through a joint United Nations team on AIDS, 11 United Nations agencies continued to conduct HIV prevention awareness-raising activities and an anti-stigma campaign throughout Haiti. The joint team is working closely with the First Lady of Haiti, Sophia Martelly, to implement a year-long advocacy and communication campaign to eliminate mother-to-child transmission. To reach young people, United Nations agencies have partnered with civil society organizations and have integrated HIV prevention education into conferences and training workshops on leadership, gender, human rights and women's rights. In the area of governance, the joint team assisted the Government in the reform of the Haiti Country Coordinating Mechanism for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, resulting in continued funding of $34 million for HIV prevention. Notwithstanding a decrease in the HIV prevalence rate in Haiti over the past five years and the fact that the latest statistics show an adult HIV prevalence rate of 1.9 per cent, the country continues to have one of the highest HIV prevalence rates in the world.

Conduct and discipline

37. The Conduct and Discipline Unit delivered 62 training sessions for 1,368 MINUSTAH personnel. In consultation with senior civilian, military and police managers, the Mission developed an integrated strategy to enhance accountability by Mission leaders aimed at preventing misconduct. The strategy led to a strengthened focal point network and an increase in reporting by personnel owing to enhanced awareness of their obligations.

38. An increase in thefts of high-value property and equipment was noted. The Mission has stepped up security at key locations and has received extensive assistance from the Haitian authorities in investigating the thefts. The Mission and

the Government are cooperating to ensure that those responsible are brought to justice and, to the extent possible, that the stolen property and equipment are recovered.

Safety and security of United Nations personnel

39. The most significant risks facing the United Nations in Haiti come from opportunistic crime (which is sometimes violent), civil unrest focused on local issues, road traffic accidents and natural disasters. To help to manage the risks and to enable United Nations activities, the United Nations Security Section consolidated its capacity and training in crisis alert and response, forming an operations and response unit and expanding its search and rescue capability. It also improved its security information management processes, creating a unified database of all United Nations personnel working in Haiti, including agencies, funds and programmes. It also increased cooperation and coordination on security management issues with the host Government, especially regarding official procedures for the investigation of theft of or damage to United Nations property.

Public information and outreach

40. During the reporting period, MINUSTAH continued to use public information as a strategic tool to support the implementation of its mandate. Public information efforts continued through international and national media relations and regular press conferences, in addition to timely issuance of press releases and other products, including through the Mission's radio, website, social media and television productions. Radio MINUSTAH FM continued providing support to efforts to prevent cholera, ensure disaster and hurricane preparedness, and promote national reconciliation and the rule of law. In close coordination with other MINUSTAH components and United Nations agencies, the Mission produced its weekly 15-minute video programme on topics of interest to the Haitian public concerning its work and current affairs, which is broadcast on seven national television stations and eight diaspora television stations in the United States of America, in addition to being disseminated by the nine multimedia centres in the regions.

Mission support

41. MINUSTAH finalized its review of the Santo Domingo Support Office as a back office for administrative support. Implementation of the recommendations is in progress and will result in a reduction in operational expenses of the Office and a further nationalization of staffing positions. The United Nations and the Government of the Dominican Republic are continuing to work on the elaboration of a memorandum of understanding concerning support for MINUSTAH with a view to further reducing the financial impact on the Mission.

V. Humanitarian, recovery and development activities

Coordination between the Mission and the United Nations country team

42. During the reporting period, MINUSTAH and the United Nations country team finalized the draft of the new integrated strategic framework for the period 2013-2016, which identifies United Nations priorities and is aligned with the

Government's strategic development plan. The new framework has been drafted in close consultation with the Government and addresses a new context of transition, dominated by two broad trends: the shared commitment of the Government and of international partners to focus on strengthening Haitian institutions to fully manage the delivery of basic social services; and the gradual downsizing of the Mission's presence. The number of joint programmes involving at least two United Nations agencies and the Government, which are managed by the United Nations country team, has increased to a total of 11, 6 of which are funded through the Haiti Reconstruction Fund. In June 2012, actual funding of joint programmes stood at $184 million of a total required budget of $274 million.

43. The Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General and United Nations Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator, in his capacity as Chair of the Group of Twelve (the group of main donors in Haiti), and in collaboration with UNDP, worked with the Government to develop a new aid coordination framework that was endorsed by the Government Council (comprising all Cabinet ministers and headed by the Prime Minister). The framework is pending approval by the Council of Ministers, which is chaired by the President. It replaces the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission, whose mandate expired in October 2011, and comes under the auspices of the Ministry of Planning and External Cooperation. It is intended to help the Government to ensure increased transparency in foreign aid transactions and to strengthen the Government's capacity to manage external resources. Similarly, a cluster system transition plan is being developed. Following the deactivation, on 30 June, of several humanitarian clusters in favour of nationally led coordination mechanisms, only four critical clusters remain (camp coordination and camp management/shelter; health; water, sanitation and hygiene; and protection). Those clusters will be maintained until the end of 2012, while support is redirected from clusters to counterpart Haitian institutions.

44. Since 2010, a top priority of MINUSTAH and the United Nations country team has been the institutional strengthening of governance at the national and local levels. To this end, United Nations agencies, programmes and funds currently have a total of 835 staff (693 national staff and 142 international staff) deployed in national and local government entities in order to strengthen institutional capacity and provide technical assistance.

United Nations efforts with regard to the cholera epidemic

45. According to the Ministry of Public Health and Population, the cholera epidemic has caused more than 7,440 deaths. A total of 580,947 people were infected during the period from October 2010 to 15 July 2012. From 1 January to 1 August 2012, the Ministry's monitoring and alert system recorded more than 35,000 new cases. A binational initiative to eliminate cholera from the island of Hispaniola was launched in January 2012. Under the leadership of the Ministry of Public Health and Population, Government institutions, the World Health Organization, UNICEF and other key actors are developing a strategic plan for the period 2013-2022, with a special focus on the coming two years. The system remains weak and underreports cases, however. With the onset of the rainy season early in March, the number of new cholera cases increased, although the case fatality rate has remained constant at 1.3 per cent. The World Health Organization projects a possible 112,000 cases in 2012. The United Nations and partners have supported the establishment, upgrading and maintenance of oral rehydration points

and cholera treatment units and centres, in addition to developing guidance on surveillance, case management, containment and case referral. The National Directorate for Water and Sanitation was supported to respond to cholera spikes and distribute household water treatment products to more than 30,000 families. The United Nations and partners have also supported prevention, including through community-level outreach to 700,000 families and by positioning 2 million household water treatment products nationwide. The resurgence of the cholera outbreak is particularly worrying, however, since non-governmental organizations that responded at the beginning of the epidemic are phasing out their support for lack of funding. Consequently, support for the transfer of responsibilities to the Ministry of Public Health and Population, as foreseen in the national strategy, has decreased, as has the capacity to treat cholera cases effectively. The integration of efforts to combat cholera into the national health system is experiencing significant challenges, in part caused by delays in the decentralization of response efforts and structural weaknesses within the health system. The Ministry of Public Health and Population and partners are taking measures to introduce necessary improvements.

Office of the Special Envoy for Haiti

46. In support of the Government, the Office of the Special Envoy is continuing its work with the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General and United Nations Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator, the United Nations country team and donors on the implementation of the accompaniment approach, which sets forth practical implementation principles that ask donors and their partners to channel more funding to local public and private institutions to help to promote access to services and jobs for the most vulnerable. While such principles are not new and are reflected in the global aid effectiveness agenda, a careful analysis of funding flows makes clear that there remains significant work to be done in the implementation of the principles. For example, of the $5.78 billion disbursed by bilateral and multilateral donors to Haiti for recovery, humanitarian and development efforts from 2010 to 2012, an estimated 10 per cent ($556 million) has been disbursed to the Government through its own systems. In this regard, the Office of the Special Envoy is partnering with the Peacebuilding Support Office and the Overseas Development Institute on a new research project examining lessons learned in the delivery of aid to Haiti. The project will culminate in an end-of-year report comparing the way in which aid is delivered in Haiti to that in other fragile settings and making recommendations on how delivery can be improved in such contexts. The Office of the Special Envoy is also supporting UNDP work with the Ministry of Planning and External Cooperation on establishing a comprehensive aid information management system, which will be an integral part of the aid coordination framework outlined above.

VI. Outline of a reconfiguration and consolidation plan for the Mission

47. As Haiti is once again setting its sights on longer-term stabilization and development goals and has made important strides in strengthening its political and rule of law institutions, MINUSTAH has continued to draw down its post-earthquake surge and has further reduced activities linked to the challenges caused by the earthquake. To ensure that the Mission continues to adjust to these evolving

conditions, at my request, my Special Representative, in collaboration with the United Nations country team, has consulted the Government and international partners on a plan for a reconfiguration and conditions-based consolidation of MINUSTAH. The Mission intends to continue developing this plan and to review and adjust it periodically as circumstances require.

48. The plan foresees a narrowing of the Mission's activities to a core set of mandated tasks that are achievable within a reasonable time frame (envisioned to be a period of between four and five years for planning purposes) aimed at consolidating stabilization gains to a point beyond which the presence of a large peacekeeping operation will no longer be required. The Mission will work with the Government, civil society, the United Nations country team and international partners to agree on a transition compact that will set out a limited number of stabilization benchmarks that will serve as key indicators of progress in the stabilization process. On security, the level of operational effectiveness of the national police will constitute the main benchmark that should guide the pace of the drawdown of the Mission's uniformed personnel. Other benchmarks will evaluate the maturity of key rule of law oversight and accountability mechanisms, which are fundamental in firmly rooting a culture of rule of law, in addition to the status of related legislative and regulatory frameworks. The capacity of Haitian institutions to organize and coordinate transparent, fair and credible elections with limited external assistance will guide the reduction of elections-related tasks by MINUSTAH.

49. The Mission's consolidation proposals assume that its military component will gradually hand over responsibility for security to formed police units and, ultimately, to the national police as the latter's numbers and capacity grow. The transfer from military to formed police units is already completed in 4 of the 10 departments (South, Grand-Anse, Nippes and North-West). By July 2013, MINUSTAH intends to concentrate its military presence into five security hubs (Port-au-Prince, Léogâne, Gonaïves, Cap-Haïtien and Ouanaminthe). This gradual concentration of the military presence would be balanced by the deployment of formed police units to the vacated departments, a transition model that has already proved effective. In partnership with MINUSTAH police, the military component will also explore ways to contribute to the mentoring and training of the national police, such as in the area of maritime security.

50. I therefore recommend that the Security Council consider reducing the Mission's authorized military strength from 7,340 to 6,270 troops through a balanced withdrawal of 1,070 infantry and engineering personnel by June 2013. Furthermore, as the Mission further concentrates its efforts on national police mentoring and development, phases out operational policing activities by its individual police officers and rationalizes its police component structure, I recommend a reduction of the authorized police strength from 3,241 to 2,601 personnel by June 2013, which will be attained by the withdrawal of 400 individual officers by early 2013 and a reduction in the number of formed police units to 10 by June 2013. Those reductions would coincide with current troop and police rotation schedules and may also take into account the calendar for the upcoming partial legislative, municipal and local elections.

51. The Mission will also restructure its civilian components to reflect the reduced scope of its activities. As a first step, MINUSTAH will concentrate all support functions for its presence in the 10 departments into four regional hubs. It will also

seek to strengthen programmatic ties and co-locate wherever possible with the country team, giving the latter the opportunity to further decentralize its presence throughout Haiti and to plan for the gradual drawdown of the peacekeeping operation. Given the anticipated drop in donor funding for the United Nations country team programmes, the Mission will assist in the development of a resource mobilization strategy.

VII. Financial aspects

52. By its resolution 66/273, the General Assembly appropriated the amount of $648,394,000 for the maintenance of MINUSTAH for the period from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013. Should the Security Council decide to extend the mandate of MINUSTAH beyond 15 October 2012, the cost of maintaining the Mission will be limited to the amounts approved by the General Assembly.

53. As at 21 August 2012, unpaid assessed contributions to the Special Account for MINUSTAH amounted to $162.5 million. The total outstanding assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations as at that date amounted to $3,470.8 million.

54. As at 21 August 2012, amounts owed to troop and formed police unit contributors to MINUSTAH totalled $20.5 million. Reimbursement of troop and contingent-owned equipment costs have been made for the periods up to 31 May 2012 and 31 March 2012, respectively, in accordance with the quarterly payment schedule.

VIII. Observations

55. The swearing-in of a new Government, the publication of a corrected version of the constitutional amendments and the establishment of the Superior Council of the Judiciary are important milestones in Haiti's efforts to strengthen its democratic and rule of law institutions. The steps already taken by the new Government to attract foreign investment, combat corruption and smuggling and promote industrial projects aimed at creating jobs are indicators of a genuine desire to move forward with socioeconomic development. Those measures had long been expected by the Haitian electorate and I commend the country's authorities for displaying leadership and forging the necessary compromises to achieve such results.

56. Government measures to dislodge elements of the former armed forces and new recruits who had been illegally occupying sites throughout the country averted a challenge to law and order and demonstrated an encouraging improvement in the response capacity of the national police. I encourage the Government to follow through on its promises to make final payments of severance arrears to eligible members of the former armed forces.

57. The political process in Haiti remains vulnerable to setbacks linked to political instability, lack of respect for the rule of law and unmet social grievances. In this context, I urge the new Government to do its utmost to continue to strengthen the country's rule of law institutions and to redouble its efforts to combat unemployment and poverty. I encourage Haitian political actors to engage in the elaboration of a consensual legislative agenda that promotes institution-building,

safeguards investment, protects human rights and puts an end to a culture of impunity.

58. The constitutional amendments published in June have finally provided the basis for the establishment of the Permanent Electoral Council, the absence of which has been detrimental to political stability in recent years. It is of paramount importance that the Council be constituted and operate with the utmost integrity and the support of all institutions. In this regard, I encourage all stakeholders to engage in a constructive dialogue to allow for the holding of credible and long-overdue elections, which will help to revitalize Haitian institutions and minimize the institutional vacuum following the end of the terms of 10 senators on 8 May. It is particularly important that the Government mobilize its share of resources for the electoral budget, including the funding required to build the management and administrative capabilities of the Permanent Electoral Council. As before, the United Nations stands ready to support the electoral process.

59. In the light of the progress achieved in recent months, I am optimistic that Haiti's leaders have an opportunity to make genuine progress in rebuilding the nation, strengthening institutions, attracting investment, promoting sustainable development and entrenching respect for the rule of law and human rights. Reiterating my intention to continue to consolidate the presence of MINUSTAH, I recommend that the Security Council extend the mandate of the Mission for an additional year, until 15 October 2013, while incorporating the adjustments recommended in paragraphs 47 to 51 of the present report.

60. The strengthening of the national police remains a key prerequisite for the Mission's eventual withdrawal from Haiti. I welcome the President's stated intention to focus on the continued strengthening of this institution so that it can provide security throughout Haiti. Recent steps by the Government, with the Mission's assistance, to increase the numbers of police recruits, in particular female recruits, are encouraging and should help to accelerate the currently insufficient intake of new police cadets. To ensure the continued and sustainable growth of the national police, I invite the Government to address with greater focus the strengthening of the institution's administrative capacity and to reinforce its middle-level and senior officer ranks. In this context, I urge the Government and Member States to commit themselves to ensuring that the needed funding is made available to support a professional, reliable and accountable police force.

61. I should like to conclude by expressing my sincere gratitude to my Special Representative, Mariano Fernández, to my Special Envoy, the former President of the United States, William J. Clinton, and to the men and women of MINUSTAH, troop-contributing countries, police-contributing countries and the United Nations country team and its partners for their continued dedication and commitment in support of stability and development in Haiti.

Annex I

United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti: countries providing military staff and contingents, as at 15 August 2012

	Staff officers		*Troops*		
Country	*Females*	*Males*	*Females*	*Males*	*Total*
Argentina		12	49	662	723
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	1	2	11	195	209
Brazil		19	21	1 856[a]	1 896[b]
Canada	1	4			5
Chile		3	13	484	500
Ecuador		1	1	65	67
France		3			3
Guatemala		5	10	123	138
Indonesia		1		167	168
Japan		2	2	212	216
Jordan		8		242	250
Nepal		12	8	342	362
Paraguay		1		159	160
Peru		6	8	358	372
Philippines		2	11	144	157
Republic of Korea		2	4	236	242
Sri Lanka		11		850	861
United States of America		9			9
Uruguay		12	37	885	934
Total	**2**	**115**	**175**	**6 980**	**7 272**

[a] Including one Bolivian attached to the Brazilian contingent.

[b] The Force Commander is employed on a United Nations contract and hence not reflected in the troop strength.

[c] In its resolution 2012 (2011), the Security Council decided that the Mission's overall force levels would consist of up to 7,340 troops of all ranks.

Annex II

United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti: countries providing police and formed police units, as at 17 August 2012

Country	Number of United Nations police		Number of formed police units	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
Argentina	2	15	–	–
Bangladesh	–	10	106	214
Benin	–	36	–	–
Brazil	–	2	–	–
Burkina Faso	29	53	–	–
Burundi	10	30	–	–
Cameroon	5	51	–	–
Canada	7	51	–	–
Central African Republic	1	3	–	–
Chad	1	8	–	–
Chile	3	8	–	–
China	–	16	–	–
Colombia	3	22	–	–
Côte d'Ivoire	12	110	–	–
Croatia	–	5	–	–
Egypt	–	31	–	–
El Salvador	4	12	–	–
France	3	31	–	–
Grenada	–	–	–	–
Guinea	1	15	–	–
Guinea-Bissau	–	–	–	–
India	2	1	–	460
Indonesia	1	9	–	–
Italy	–	–	–	–
Jamaica	–	1	–	–
Jordan	–	41	–	320
Kyrgyzstan	–	1	–	–
Lithuania	–	–	–	–
Madagascar	1	3	–	–
Mali	2	27	–	–
Nepal	–	16	10	130
Niger	14	68	–	–
Nigeria	1	7	–	–
Norway	2	4	–	–

	Number of United Nations police		*Number of formed police units*	
Country	*Female*	*Male*	*Female*	*Male*
Pakistan	–	13	–	140
Philippines	1	29	–	–
Romania	1	16	–	–
Russian Federation	1	2	–	–
Rwanda	11	25	9	151
Senegal	2	17	–	140
Serbia	–	5	–	–
Sierra Leone	1	3	–	–
Spain	2	21	–	–
Sri Lanka	2	28	–	–
Sweden	1	1	–	–
Togo	–	1	–	–
Turkey	2	25	–	–
Thailand	6	9	–	–
United States of America	14	79	–	–
Uruguay	2	2	–	–
Yemen	–	18	–	–
	150	**977**	**125**	**1 555**
Subtotal	**1 127**		**1 680**	
Total	**2 807**[a]			

[a] In its resolution 2012 (2011), the Security Council decided that the Mission would have a police component of 3,241 officers.